

Comitia

comitia iam aderant. cīvēs novōs duovirōs creāre dēbēbant. per omnēs viās in mūrīs casārū nūntiī candidātōrum pictī erant, sicut:

5 ORO VOS M. EPIDIUM SABINUM DUOVIRUM
FACIATIS. CANDIDATUS DIGNUS EST,
COLONIAE VESTRAE DEFENSOR.

cīvēs in viās festinābant et candidātōs spectābant. illī per viās ambulābant; togās candidās gerēbant; turba fautōrum eōs comitābat. ōrātiōnēs habēbant; multa prōmittēbant quae efficere
10 nōn poterant; cīvēs eōs audiēbant, paucī tamen eīs crēdēbant.

Flaccus in tabernā sedēbat et colloquium cum amīcīs faciēbat. Ganymēdēs, senex querulus et miser, 'candidātis crēdere nōn possumus' inquit; 'cum enim magistrātum petunt, omnia prōmittunt. cum duovirī sunt, nihil faciunt. nihil cūrant nisi
15 pecūniam suam.'

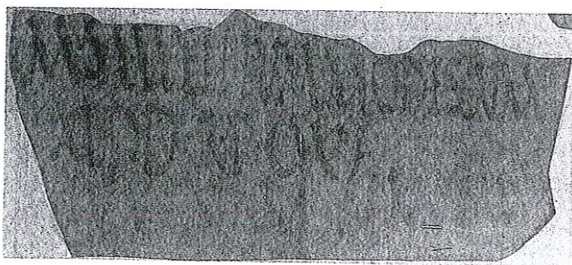
Philērus 'vēra dīcis, Ganymēdēs,' inquit; 'omnēs candidātī putidī sunt, sicut Chrēsanthus, homō pessimus. ōlim pauper erat, quī parātus fuit quadrantem dē stercore dentibus tollere. nunc dīvitias innumerābilēs habet. quōmodo illās dīvitias sibi
20 comparāvit? furcifer est.'

Flaccus tamen amīcōs invītus audīvit: 'nōlī nūgās nārrāre, amīce,' inquit; 'iam dēbēmus ad comitium īre et suffrāgia ferre. surgite, amīcī, et mēcum venīte.' omnēs igitur ad forum prōcessērunt et festināverunt ad comitium. in triviīs duobus candidātis occurrērunt quī ad comitium prōcēdēbant. pistōrēs
25 alterī favēbant; alba ferēbant (cum hāc īnscriptiōne):

C. IULIUM POLYBIUM DUOVIRUM ORO VOS
FACIATIS; PANEM BONUM FACIT.

alterī favēbant mūliōnēs.

30 alii aliōs vituperābant; mox saxa per aurās volābant; multī vulnera accēperunt; multī timuērunt domumque rediērunt; tandem candidātus quīdam, vir gravis et spectātus, ōrātiōnem (ad cīvēs) habuit; tumultumque sēdāvit. omnēs (ad comitium) prōcessērunt; suffrāgia tulērunt; novōs duovirōs creāvērunt; fautōrēs eōrum laeti clāmāverunt; victōrēsque triumphantēs domum dūxerunt. Flaccus domum festināvit. Scintillaeque omnia
35 nārrāvit



Part of an
election poster
from Pompeii

A Roman bar

comitia the elections
creāre to elect; pictī painted
sicut like

ōrō vōs...faciātis I beg you to make

turba fautōrum a crowd of supporters
comitābat accompanied

tabernā a pub
colloquium conversation
querulus complaining, querulous
magistrātum magistracy, office
nisi except

putidī rotten; ōlim once
quadrantem a farthing
dē stercore from the dung
dentibus with his teeth
comparāvit did he get?
furcifer a thief; nūgās nonsense
comitium the polling station
suffrāgia ferre to cast our votes
in triviīs at a crossroads
pistōrēs the bakers; alterī (dat.) one
favēbant favored, supported
alba (n. pl.) notice boards

pānem bread; alterī the other

mūliōnēs the muleteers
vituperābant began to abuse
volābant were flying
spectātus respected
tumultum riot
sēdāvit calmed
tulērunt cast
triumphantēs in triumph

